

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES
5th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2007 – 3:00 P.M.

The International Bridge Commission met at the above place and date.

Item 1: Chair Tanny Berg called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. Those present were:

Tanny Berg, Chair – D-1 (Rep. Ann Morgan Lilly)

Victor M. Aguirre, D-5 (Rep. Rachel Quintana)

Daniel Barnes, D-4 (Rep. Melina Castro)

Mike Breitingner, D-7 (Rep. Steve Ortega)

Analisa Cordova, D-2 (Rep. Susie Byrd)

ABSENT

Gerardo Camacho, D-3 (Rep. J. Alexandro Lozano)

Mike Dipp, Vice-Chair – (Mayor John Cook)

Blanca Dominguez, D-6 (Rep. Eddie Holguin, Jr.)

Saul Frank, D-8 (Rep. Beto O'Rourke)

OTHERS PRESENT

Daryl W. Cole, Street Department Director

Ray Mendoza, Street Department - Bridges & Meters Division

Josette Flores, Assistant City Attorney

Representative Beto O'Rourke

Christina J. Daly, Customs & Border Protection

Ted X. Marquez, Traffic Engineering

Michael O. Herrera, Sun Metro

Item 2: Motion made by Mr. Aguirre, seconded by Mr. Barnes and carried to approve the Minutes to the last meeting held on Tuesday, September 18, 2007.

AYES: Mr. Berg, Mr. Aguirre, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Breitingner, Ms. Cordova.

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Mr. Camacho, Mr. Dipp, Ms. Dominguez, Mr. Frank.

Item 3: Discussion and Action on Presentation of Bridge Management Report.

Mr. Cole discussed the bridge capital projects, the update on the Oregon Street Canopy Project, and the opening for the Streets Assistant Director for the International Bridges.

- a. In the process of buying the eight properties along Stanton;
The second level of the SIB loan should be on the Texas Transportation Commission Agenda for this month for the actual building of the structure at Stanton as well as PDN.

Addressing comments from the Federal Highway Administration for the Lions Placita at PDN on the canopies and the toll collection facility as well as buying of the properties;

Plans for Stanton are at 95% submittal;

Working on the DCL easements,

In the process of adding safety lighting at Zaragoza.

- b. Target date to release the pedestrians onto Oregon Street is November 15. Chair Berg is requesting to defer the release of pedestrians until January 2008. Discussion held on the lighting under the canopy; Detour coordinated by GSA due to construction southbound on El Paso Street; should last about three weeks,
- c. Discussion on the Streets Assistant Director for the International Bridges job opening – handed out copies of the job description.

Item 4: Discussion and Action on Presentation of International Bus Service – Sun Metro

Michael Herrera from Sun Metro discussed the international bus route and handed out copies of the route.

Item 5. Discussion on the GSA Head House Project at the Paso Del Norte Bridge.

Discussion held on the target date of November 15 to release pedestrian traffic onto Oregon, which is a week before Thanksgiving.

Motion was made by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Aguirre and carried to write a letter to GSA asking that we would like a moratorium in moving the pedestrian traffic on the intended date of the 15th of November to January 5, 2008.

AYES: Mr. Berg, Mr. Aguirre, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Breitingner, Ms. Cordova.

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Mr. Camacho, Mr. Dipp, Ms. Dominguez, Mr. Frank.

Chair Berg asked if at the end of this year it will be approximately two years left to complete the project. Mr. Cole replied that this is his understanding, and that he will get the date confirmed.

Item 6: Discussion and Action on Presentation on Sun Metro Bus Service in the Oregon Street Area between Paisano and Sixth Street.

Discussion held by Mr. Michael Herrera, Sun Metro.

Item 7: Discussion and Action on Proposed Taxi Stands at Bridge of the Americas.

Chair Berg asked the representatives from the taxi cab company present at the last meeting to prepare a resolution, and that the Commission was willing to support their position. A resolution has not been presented to the Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Ms. Cordova and carried to table Item No. 7 until the next meeting.

AYES: Mr. Berg, Mr. Aguirre, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Breitingner, Ms. Cordova.

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Mr. Camacho, Mr. Dipp, Ms. Dominguez, Mr. Frank.

Item 8: Discussion and Action on Potential Proposals for Shortening Wait Times at the Ports of Entry.

Discussion held on ways to shorten wait times at the ports of entry. Chair Berg asked that we continue this discussion at the next meeting.

Item 9. There were no open comments.

Item 10: Motion made by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Aguirre and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Approved as to form:

Secretary